be levied and that half of the revenue so realised would be assigned by Government to the village local bodies or Panchayets who would be expected to utilise the funds towards the improvement of the grazing lands, their conservation, watch, etc. In villages in which no local committee as indicated above was prepared to come forward, the right of grazing thereon had to be sold in auction, the purchaser of the grazing right being at liberty to sublet the grazing under any terms agreed upon between himself and the owners of cattle in the village. Practically no village community has come forward to manage these lands with the result that the grazing rights have mostly been disposed of in auction annually.

2. The raiyats have been contending that owing to the lease system there is speculation and hardship on the poorer raiyats and for several years past, representations have been made at almost every session of the Representative Assembly and the Legislative Council that the villagers are put to considerable hardship by the present arrangement of the sale of Hulbanni and that the Hulbanni fees should be abolished. The main difficulties alluded to are that—

in factious villages, the lessee harasses persons belonging to other parties and prevents their cattle from grazing on the Hulbanni lands, that the sale purchasers levy fees from others indiscriminately and arbitrarily, and largely, in excess of the annual lease amount, and that where patels and shanbhogs happen to be the purchasers, they collect a grazing fee at two annas per rupee of assessment.

The question of abolition of Hulbanni fees was discussed in connection with a resolution moved in the Representative Assembly on the 18th October 1940, during the Dasara Session, and the members brought to notice once again, the serious difficulties under which people in the rural parts were suffering under the present system and the entire Assembly resolved that the Hulbanni fees should be abolished.

3. The question of fixing in the Harajpatti itself the maximum rates which the sale purchasers could be permitted to levy was considered by Government but it had to be dropped as it was beset with considerable difficulties. The possibilities of transferring the entire revenue derived from the Hulbanni to the Village Panchayets and entrusting them with its assessment and collection was also considered, but this too, it was felt, would not give much relief to the villagers.

4. The average revenue realised from this source has been about Rs. 70,000 per year and although the amount is large, Government consider that, having regard to the abuses inseparable from a system of farming grazing revenue and the widespread satisfaction that its discontinuance is calculated to give to people in rural parts, it is expedient to comply with the unanimous and oft-voiced request made in the two legislative bodies in the matter and accordingly direct that the levy of Hulbanni fees be abolished from the current year.

B. T. KESAVIENGAR,
Chief Secretary to Government.

GENERAL SECRETARIAT

Administration Report of the Muzrai Department for the year 1939-40.

READ—

Letter No. C. Per. 'A-2—40-41, dated 4th October 1940, from the Muzrai Commissioner in Mysore, forwarding the Report on the Administration of the Muzrai Department for the year 1939-40.

ORDER No. 1077-91—MUZ. 144-40-8, DATED BANGALORE, THE 19TH NOVEMBER 1940.

Recorded.

2. *Rukn-ul-Mulk* Mr. S. Abdul Wajid, B.A., continued as Muzrai Commissioner during the year.

3. *Investigation of Cases of Defunct Institutions.*—There were 98 cases pending at the beginning of the year and 27 cases were detected during the year. Out of

these, 31 cases with an annual income of Rs. 80-9-0 from cash grants and Rs. 1,012-8-0 from lands and other sources were disposed of during the year, leaving a balance of 94 cases pending at the end of the year. The disposals in Bangalore, Mandya and Shimoga Districts were very unsatisfactory as only 2 cases in Bangalore, 1 in Mandya and 5 in Shimoga were brought to disposal against 13, 10, and 59 cases, respectively. More than half the balance for the whole State is pending in the Shimoga District. The Deputy Commissioner, Shimoga District, is requested to look into the matter and arrange for expeditious disposal of the pending cases.

4. *Income and Expenditure of Muzrai Institutions.*—The opening balance at the credit of the Muzrai Institutions at the beginning of the year was Rs. 13,62,064-6-0, and the receipts for the year amounted to Rs. 10,62,504-5-5 (8,99,501-2-11). A sum of Rs. 9,72,579-15-11 (8,53,026-7-6) was debited to the institutions concerned as expenditure, leaving a closing balance of Rs. 14,51,988-11-6 (13,65,654-9-2) at the close of the year. The increase of Rs. 1,63,003-2-6 under income during the year is largely contributed by the transactions of the *Mahāmasthakabhisheka* ceremony in Sravanabelagola during February 1940, and the increase in expenditure is well within the increase under income.

5. *Constructions and Repairs of Muzrai Institutions.*—The total outlay during the year was Rs. 1,05,771-2-6 in respect of 176 old works and 285 newly sanctioned ones. There were at the end of the year 452 works at an estimated cost of Rs. 2,06,923-3-8 remaining to be completed. The renovation of Halebid and Belur temples progressed during the year. A sum of Rs. 5,000 was sanctioned for completing certain miscellaneous works. The total amount so far sanctioned for the renovation, including the sums spent in previous years, was Rs. 68,450 to the end of June 1940. The electrification of Belur Temple which was taken up last year by the Electrical Department was nearing completion. Grants to the extent of Rs. 35,488 were sanctioned from the State and General Muzrai Funds for the construction and repairs of Muzrai Institutions during the year.

6. *Muzrai Funds—(a) General Muzrai Funds.*—The opening balance at the credit of this fund at the beginning of the year was Rs. 21,839-3-2. The receipts during the year amounted to Rs. 48,270-12-7, and out of the total amount of Rs. 70,109-15-9, an expenditure of Rs. 36,780-4-10 was incurred during the year, leaving a closing balance of Rs. 33,329-10-11. The total investments of the fund amount to Rs. 5,01,800.

(b) Chattram Savings Fund.—The Fund opened with a balance of Rs. 5,737-8-8 as corrected in the Comptroller's Office and the receipts during the year amounted to Rs. 80,954-13-2. Out of the total amount of Rs. 86,692-5-10, an expenditure of Rs. 61,636-2-11 was incurred during the year, leaving a closing balance of Rs. 25,056-2-11. The total investments of the fund amount to Rs. 2,33,200.

Muzrai Establishment Fund.—The fund had an opening balance of Rs. 46,735-1-9 and the total receipts during the year amounted to Rs. 38,262-8-5. Out of the total amount of Rs. 84,997-10-2, an expenditure of Rs. 35,972-9-7 was incurred during the year, leaving a closing balance of Rs. 49,025-0-7. The total investments of the fund amount to Rs. 74,300.

7. *Demand, collection and Balance in respect of Properties belonging to Mattas, Temples, etc., under Government Management.*—Including the arrears of previous years, the total demand in respect of these properties was Rs. 5,23,746-8-6, out of which a sum of Rs. 2,57,109-2-11 was collected or remitted, leaving a balance of Rs. 2,66,637-5-7 at the end of the year. In addition to these cash arrears 5,088-23½ pallas of paddy and 645-5 maunds of areca are due to the institutions. The collections during the year in the Bangalore, Tumkur, Mysore and Mandya Districts were not satisfactory. Government trust once again that action will be taken to reduce the arrears appreciably during the current year.

At the end of the year under report, 1,389 Puduvat Loans involving Rs. 1,07,427-15-2 were outstanding recovery. The collections, *viz.*, Rs. 8,726-3-9 are very poor and the arrears continue to be very heavy in all the districts, except Kolar. No information is available whether all the loans are within time or any of them has become time-barred. The Muzrai Commissioner is requested to issue suitable instructions for the prompt recovery of the loans without allowing them to

become time-barred, and to enforce the personal responsibility of the officers concerned if any amounts become irrecoverable owing to their negligence in taking timely action.

8. *Educational Institutions under the Muzrai Department.*—The Ayurvedic and Unani Colleges, Mysore, the Sanskrit College at Melkote, the Veda Maha Pathasala at Bangalore, the Agama Classes in the Maharaja's Sanskrit College, the Veda Pathasalas aided by Government and the Karnick's Vaidika Dharma Patasala, Bangalore, continued to work satisfactorily during the year.

9. *Work of Dharmadarsis.*—Although the Dharmadarsis are reported to be evincing greater interest than before in the affairs of the institutions, they are not submitting the half-yearly reports of accounts and the annual administration report of the concerned institutions. The Deputy Commissioners of Districts should once again impress on these Dharmadarsis the necessity for submitting these reports and take needful action to ensure improvement in this direction.

10. *Inspection.*—The largest number of major institutions has been inspected by the Deputy Commissioners of Kolar and Shimoga Districts. The Deputy Commissioner, Mysore District, did not inspect any minor institutions at all while the number of major institutions inspected by him are also small.

11. *General.*—The most important event of the year was the celebration of the *Mahamasthakabhisheka* ceremony of Sri Gomateswaraswami at Sravanabelagola during February 1940, when, for the first time, the Government themselves took up the management of the function. Devotees from all parts of India attended the ceremony and the transactions in connection with the celebration ended in a net savings of Rs. 70,452-1-7.

J. APPAJI GOWDA,
Secretary to Government,
General Department.

Forest Settlement of the Metikurke Block in the Arsikere Taluk.

READ—

Government Notification No. G. 7094—Ft. 163-37-3, dated 2nd March 1938, issued under Section 4 of the Mysore Forest Act, in the matter of the proposed constitution of the Metikurke Block in the Arsikere Taluk as a State Forest.

2. Letter No. C. 487—40-41, dated 29th October 1940, from the Revenue Commissioner in Mysore, forwarding the Forest Settlement Officer's report * on the conclusion of the settlement of the block and stating that the Chief Conservator of Forests is agreeable to the issue of the final notification.

* (Printed as Annexure.)

ORDER NO. A. F. 2759-62—FT. 104-40-2, DATED BANGALORE, THE 16TH NOVEMBER 1940.

The settlement effected by the Forest Settlement Officer and agreed to by the Revenue Commissioner and the Chief Conservator of Forests is approved. The notification under Section 17 of the Mysore Forest Act constituting the block as a State Forest with effect from the 15h January 1941, will be published in the *Mysore Gazette.*

The Deputy Commissioner, Hassan District, is requested to duly promulgate the boundaries of the block in the villages concerned.

J. APPAJI GOWDA,
Secretary to Government,
General Department.